

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 04110 121017Z

21

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SCCT-02 SY-03 SAM-01 OMB-01

AID-20 PC-10 SCA-01 SCS-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 DRC-01 /145 W

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O R 120856Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8492

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 4110

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS CASC ET

SUBJ: TENNECO FIVE

REF: ADDIS 4091; STATE 073758

1. PRIOR RECEIPT STATE REFTL, POL COUNSELOR HAD CALLED MORNING APRIL 11 ON MOFA'S VICEMIN HAMID (AMERICAN AFFAIRS DIRECTOR) TO INVITE ATTENTION TO PROBLEMS MISSION ENCOUNTERING WITH RESPECT EFFORTS CURRENTLY IN COURSE TO EXTRICATE TENNECO FIVE. FOR EXAMPLE: MESSAGES FROM CAPTORS OF TENNECO EMPLOYEES HAD BEEN HELD UP, IN ONCE CASE FOR DAYS, BEFORE BEING NOTIFIED TO TENNECO AND USREPS; CHARGE'S AMD ASMARA CONGEN'S ACCESS TO DECISION-MAKERS IN ADDIS AND ASMARA TOTALLY INADEQUATE AND THIS DELETERIOUS TO CLOSE COOPERATIVE EFFORT WHICH NECESSARY IF RPOBLEM TO BE EXPEDITIOUSLY AND SATISFACTORILY RESOLVED. IT CLEAR, IN SHORT, THAT ALL CONCERNED WOULD WOULD HAVE TO DO BETTER. HAMID TOLD THAT VIEW FOREGOING, EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE MOFA URGE AUTHROITIES DIRECTLY INVOLVED AND PARTICULARLY GOVGEN OF ERITREA TO DESPATCH INDICATION TO CAPTORS OF TENNECO FIVE THAT IMPERIAL AUTHORITIES
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PAGE 02 ADDIS 04110 121017Z

PREPARED TALK ABOUT THEIR RELEASE.

2. HAMID NOTED PROBLEMS INHERENT ALL NEGOTIATIONS WITH REBELS. POL CONSELOR COUNTERED THAT WASHINGTON LIKELY FOLLOW CURRENT SITUATION WITH DISQUIET AND THAT ETHIOPIAN DOMESTIC POLITICAL INTEREST WOULD NOT APPEAR BE ONLY ONES AT ISSUE HERE. HE URGED THAT GOVGEN BE TOLD TO PROCEED DEAL WITH PROBLEM FORTHWITH. HAMID AGREED DO HIS BEST. HE SAID HE WOULD INFORM FONMIN OF THESE REPRESENTATIONS AND BE IN TOUCH WITH MININTERIOR AND GOVGEN ERITREA AS REQUESTED. HE ASKED WE BEAR IN MIND LIMITS IEG'S CAPABILITIES NOT ONLY IN ERITREA BUT IN CURRENT NATIONAL CONTEXT AND WAS TOLD THAT WE UNDERSTOOD DIFFICULTIES BUT HAD TO INSIST EVERYTHING POSSIBLE BE DONE.

3. WE UNDERSTAND BY PHONE THAT TENNECO NOW HAS PLAN OF ACTION WHICH BEING REPORTED BY IMMEDIATE TEL FROM ASMARA. WE WISH READ THIS MSG BEFORE WE MOVE TO IMPLEMENT INSTRUCTIONS PROVIDED STATE REFTTEL. MOREOVER, I HAVE JUST BEEN ASKED BY FONMIN MEET WITH HIMSELF AND PRIMIN APRIL 13 AT 0900 HOURS LOCAL, APPARENTLY ON OTHER BUSINESS -- PROBABLY PROJECTED VISIT OF IEG DELEGATION TO WASHINGTON. I INFORMED FONMIN THAT DEPARTMENT IS GRAVELY CONCERNED BY FAILURE TO DATE DELIVER EFFECTIVE RESPONSE TO CAPTORS OF TENNECO FIVE AND THAT IN THIS MEETING I WILL WISH DISCUSS THIS PROBLEM.
WYMAN

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